

Continuing Resolution 5

Helping Hands Fund

St. John Lutheran Church's *Helping Hands Funds* exists to provide financial support to individuals in need on an urgent basis. It is not intended for long term financial support. St. John Lutheran Church maintains the right to grant or deny assistance.

Applicants are granted assistance neither based on their history of financial support of the congregation nor their relationship with any of the congregation's staff. Assistance will be provided with no regard to race, gender, age citizenry, religion, disability or any other distinction other than need.

St. John Lutheran Church's *Helping Hands Funds* will be administered in a manner that complies with all applicable IRS regulations and directives.

The pastor will administer the Helping Hands Fund in cooperation with the Stewardship and Finance Committee. At no time will cash be provided as assistance. Assistance will be paid directly to utilities vendors, lessors etc. through the normal voucher process.

Helping Hands Fund assistance may be granted, but are not limited to the following support:

- Housing Assistance,
- Utility Assistance,
- Automobile Expenses, and
- Medical Expenses.

Helping Hands Fund assistance will be provided only to the residents of:

- Southern York County School District,
- Southeastern School District,
- Dallastown School District,
- Red Lion School District,
- Maryland Line, MD Zip Code 21105,
- Freeland, MD Zip Code 21053, and
- Norrisville, MD Zip Code 21161.

Helping Hands Fund assistance will be provided to a household once in a six month period if the amount of assistance is \$250 or less, and once in a twelve month period if the assistance is \$250 or more. Households may receive a maximum of \$500 in assistance per twelve month period.

Documentation of assistance will be maintained by the pastor.

Efforts will be made to coordinate aid with local congregations and referral agencies such as, but not limited to:

- Southern Community Services,
- St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church,
- Southern York County Food Pantry and Clothing Bank, and

Approved June 11, 2018

- Congregations of the South York Conference.

St. John Lutheran Church will solicit an annual special giving envelope to fund the *Helping Hands Fund*.